

ATV Advisory Council Meeting
April 27, 2007

Started meeting at 10:15 a.m. Those in attendance were:

Scott Nadeau	David Anderson
Paul Bernier	Jon Olson
Carl Campbell	Nancy Sferra
Dan Mitchell	Charlie Corliss
Scott Ramsay	Brian Bronson

Dan Mitchell gave update on LD 455, 932, & 160 etc.

LD 455 will only eliminate motor vehicles from trails designed for ATVs.

It will not address the ATV definition. It is still in committee.

LD 160 passed and was signed by Governor.

- Establishes the process to consider ATV Access Routes on DOT roads.
- State roads will require DOT's approval and also DOC ORV Division approval.
- It's important that these are done correctly, safely and don't cause a scar on the landscape.

LD 932 – Club member discount.

- The bill is a resolve so IFW Legislature Committee is proposing to print out a joint order for a bill they can pass.
- The current intent is for the proposed bill to take effect May 1, 2008 for the 2009 Fiscal Year.
- Carl mentioned that there ought to be an e-mail alert list that can be sent to at least all clubs as bills progress because not everyone knows what is going on.
- The information swap from new clubs member will be helpful.
- There will need to be a coordinated effort to get the clubs to all use the same time frame within the year.

GAP – Good Agriculture Practices

- Federal Agriculture rules restricting access to fields where food is raised for public consumption. These rules may impact the ability of landowners to allow public trails & access

Club Trail Grants – Changes needed or not?

- Motion was made by Paul Bernier to raise current level of funding grants by \$500.00 each segment and Dave Anderson seconded. It passed unanimously.

Discussion followed on funding priorities by area or landowner. If we don't have the funding to cover all the requests should we set priorities? At the moment it's not an issue but if the requests keep increasing we will need to set priorities.

Bill Swan from Fish & Wildlife attended the afternoon session to facilitate the discussion of trying to register an ATV as both an ATV and as farm vehicle or motorcycle. This issue is primarily an issue on dual sport motorcycles and also utility machines that farmers register as farm vehicles. Currently Title 29 prohibits dual registrations even though title 12 allows this. Bill said Motor vehicle has told Fish & Wildlife they can't register motorcycles as ATVs if they have been registered under Title 29. This issue needs to be addressed at an ATV definition meeting!

Much discussion followed regarding ATV definitions and what should and should not be considered an ATV. Is there a possibility of using the Federal definition? Is there interest in setting a limit to size.

The committee agreed that we should try to set up a meeting involving the ATV Advisory Committee and the Snowmobile Advisory Committee as well as MSA, ATV Maine, the Maine Motor Sports Association and the Departments to try to develop definitions for both ATV and snowmobile that would potentially solve the ongoing problems with different definitions for ATVs and snowmobiles.

We will attempt to set up a meeting for September 14th.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15